

EMPORIA NEWS.

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1915.

BECHER.

The public were not surprised at the announcement that the Becher-Tilton jury failed to agree. The only action they could have taken that would have surprised the public would have been to have returned a verdict of guilty. The jury was expected, and so far as the trial is concerned it was in a great measure simply a farce. It had but little effect on the minds of the people of good men in the church and out of it. There were and are thousands of it, who believe Mr. Becher is guilty, while there are other thousands who are convinced to the contrary. For ourselves we are sorry that the evidence did not clearly and fully acquit the great Plymouth preacher of the charge against him, but we can hardly believe him guilty of adultery and perjury. One fact we think all will admit, that the men engaged in the prosecution are found to be utterly unworthy of the confidence. Tilton sank beneath the waves of public scorn and contempt when he lent himself to the task of writing an adulatory biography of that notorious character, Woodhull. Moulton, a professed heathen, for his hypocrisy, receives the public contempt, while Becher stands but little higher. While this is true of the prosecutors and those immediately in sympathy, we are sorry the Plymouth preacher does not come out of this affair untarnished. The most charitable position that can be assigned him is that of excessive indiscretion, and folly and the worst sort of associations. It is no easy task to reconcile Mr. Becher's professed innocence, consecration, and purity of life, with his bosom companionship with the harp-secum, free love set with whom he has been so intimate for years. The old saying that "birds of a feather flock together," bears with strong truth. A man is judged by his associations, and perhaps to a greater degree of loss of public confidence because of his evil associations, than from any other cause. We are of those who believe that a minister cannot be excused for lowering the banner of the Cross. Ministers, especially, cannot serve two masters, and Mr. Becher's so-called "liberalism" has got him into trouble and caused him the world to believe he is guilty of a heinous crime.

The trial was one of strange inconsistencies. Tilton's evidence was utterly destroyed because of the doubt that he played so long. At the very time he was accusing his wife of treachery and infidelity, it was proved he avowed his belief that she was pure as snow. Moulton told so many falsehoods and played double so long, that no confidence could be placed in him. On the other hand Becher's own letters are his worst enemies. Like the "damned spot" on Lady Macbeth's hand, they "will not out," and certainly leave the conviction that at least Mr. Becher was guilty of conduct unworthy of a leading minister of the country. To what extent this guilt goes, must remain a secret between the parties concerned and the great searcher of hearts.

It must be borne in mind that Mr. Becher is entitled to every doubt. This we accord him fully, and hope time may restore him to his old place in public confidence, if he shall deserve it.

The M. K. & T. Land Department.
It is understood that, in consequence of a recent change in the management of the M. K. & T. R., some changes, and perhaps an entire change, in the personnel of the Land Department will be made; and while it is also fully understood that the change is simply the result of that favoritism which rewards friends and punishes enemies, still we desire to improve the occasion by saying something of such of the retiring officers as we happen to know personally.

Prof. Goodnow, the Land Commissioner, is one of the stand-bys of the State, honest, prudent, sagacious, of large and favorable acquaintance, which has been of great service to the company in the sale of its lands—a business in which character stands for more than gab. Prof. Goodnow's minute and accurate knowledge of the physical characteristics of the State, of the different qualities of its land, has been no doubt of great value—qualifications, too, which are really indispensable in a Land Commissioner.

Capt. Sommers, who has been a resident of Kansas for over fifteen years, knows the State, its history, its people and its advantages and disadvantages as few men do, is an enthusiastic believer in the State and its future; candid, convincing, and so thoroughly well-posted and conscientious in the performance of his duties, that it is safe to say a better man for the position does not exist. His special duties outside, is an excellent business man, and a thorough gentleman.

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HOME REFORM.

Every newspaper ought to charge, and collect its pay, for every line of advertising or "noticing" anything that is for the benefit of any individual or organization. It then ought to liberally contribute, in cash, to all public charities or enterprises. The newspaper has no business to charge nothing for what it does, and then deprive it of a large income it needs and ought to have. Also to deal out some times a complimentary ticket, which is a kind of pay no other business establishment expects to take of its thankful for. When in addition to doing a good deal for nothing, the paper is called upon to contribute in money just the same as other business houses who have really done nothing, a double burden is put upon it. Yet this is the usual practice, and largely accounts for the fact that so many papers fail every year, and so few make any money. It is time that newspaper men run their business on regular business principles—pay their own way everywhere, and make everybody and everything pay for advertising. Then, and not before, newspapers will pay a donation for the capital, labor and skill put into them, as they have a right to do.

WHERE TO FARM.

The assessor's report we give today, of the agricultural production of Emporia township, shows that it is well settled, and quite productive. It is also well known to have ample room yet for at least double its farming area. His physician recommends that thousands of its fertile acres be adjacent to, and within plain sight of, Emporia, unimproved, and free for sale to range upon. Every day people go through this township on their way to hunt new homes in the southwest and never think to stop and look up the hundreds of acres that are available. The land is so good, and so cheap, that it is almost impossible to get right within easy reach of a fine home and railroad market, educational privileges, improved roads, bridges, and unsurpassed as a cheap point of purchase of all kinds of merchandise, and in every respect ten to fifteen years in advance of other places. We say this, not considering all the features in the case, hundreds of men go through Emporia township every year who could buy better and cheaper land in it, as they could also in many other townships of Lyon county, than they can or will get in the new counties they go to. They make a mistake in passing this section without looking up the solid, practical, assured inducements it offers to new settlers.

RAILROAD FREIGHTS VS. THE FARMERS.

Exorbitant Freight on Wheat and Oats.
We are informed that the present rates of freight from Emporia to St. Louis are 70 cents per load of oats and 80 cents per load of wheat. This we do not hesitate to pronounce exorbitant. Like the "damned spot" on Lady Macbeth's hand, they "will not out," and certainly leave the conviction that at least Mr. Becher was guilty of conduct unworthy of a leading minister of the country. To what extent this guilt goes, must remain a secret between the parties concerned and the great searcher of hearts.

A car load of wheat is 333 bushels, and of oats 625 bushels. 80 cents per bushel on wheat and 70 cents per bushel on oats, is a freight of 24 cents per bushel on wheat and 11.5 cents per bushel on oats. The August price in St. Louis has been set at \$1.10 for wheat and 35 to 37 cents for oats. The necessary commissions and storage, waste, &c., at both ends of the route, cannot be less than eleven cents per bushel on wheat, and five cents on oats. This leaves only 23 cents and it makes 34 cents less for wheat in Emporia than in St. Louis. Averaging the price in St. Louis at \$1.05, the Kansas farmer can get only 71 cents per bushel for his wheat crop. For his oats he can get only 24 cents per bushel. No farmer can afford to raise at these prices, but many, too many, are in such financial need that they must sell no matter how low a price they get, and upon these a railroad tariff of 70 and 80 cents per car presses with crushing exorbitancy. It ought to be reduced at once. Half these rates, and the railroads would charge quite enough.

If the farmers are prevented by unreasonable freight, from obtaining a living price for their crops, they will not be the intelligent and earnest men we take them for, if they will not depend upon getting good prices for wheat or other grains by shipping them out of the state. St. Louis, Chicago, or Galveston, are at too great a distance to ever be relied upon to pay a good price for bulky produce from Kansas, be it wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, or anything of which a few hundred dollars' worth fills up a freight car. Flour can be shipped better than wheat. The corn should be shipped in the shape of live stock. Better than all shipping to other markets, however, is a good home market, such as manufacturing, to which the products of Kansas are manufactured in Kansas into various articles of merchandise, which are now imported, railroad freight can be saved in both shipping grain out and shipping manufactures in, and the farmer get good prices in all cases for all the products.

The farmer who fails to encourage home manufacture, neglects a vital necessity to his own interests and prosperity. The taxes are not so onerous and intangible that nobody knows what it is, and that it can be generated by pressing air and water together with great force and suddenness, and if they can only get their apparatus to work so as to generate and maintain this mysterious vapor, and that the yield of other grains will be nearly as favorable. A few more such seasons will free Kansas people of debt, and make it the most prosperous state in the Union. On the

We are informed that a vote was taken on the train which carried the editorial excursionists to Granada, the other day, on the question of the guilt or innocence of Becher. He was decided to be guilty by a vote of two to one.

The Northern Pacific railroad stockholders held a meeting at New York, June 30, and agreed upon a basis of settlement with the bondholders. They also agreed to believe that the road could yet be built through the Pacific, and the stock become valuable.

The army of grasshoppers, which passed over Kansas, Nebraska, and northwestern, have been heard from. June 28th the myriads legions were flying over Dakota territory, still traveling northwest. They seem bound to reach the unknown wastes of British America.

The Commonwealth has been reduced in size, but not in merit or value. O. B. is not one of the "glory" kind. He has some "business" mixed in with his other newspaper qualities, and will make the paper pay. Now there is an example for other daily newspapers.

The Omaha Herald's special from all parts of Nebraska gives, in the very encouraging reports of the crops. The grasshoppers have almost entirely disappeared and also quit flying. The recent rains, which have been bountiful, have done great good.

The announcement is made, that owing to injuries received in the recent railroad accident between New York and Boston, ex-Speaker Blaine will be unable to take part in the political campaign occurring here. His physician recommends absolute quiet and abstinence from all excitement.

The government agricultural report for May and June, says that "in Kansas the grasshoppers have eaten up the old meadows and all the stacked tame grass hay, twenty-five per cent of the wheat and most of the growing corn." While our Kansas readers will probably doubt that the agricultural report contains such an absurd statement, yet it is said to be a reliable fact. The woodmen who cut it probably never saw a haystack or a grasshopper, and we will bet they can't tell whether Kansas is east or west of the Rocky mountains.

THE WHEAT HARVEST.—The Commonwealth of Sunday had reports of the harvest from various counties. Montgomery county reported 40,000 acres of wheat, averaging 18 bushels. Crawford county 20 bushels per acre. Leavenworth county one-third of a crop. Brown county 10 bushels per acre. Butler 30,000 acres at 25 bushels per acre. Chase 10,639 acres at 25 bushels per acre. Marion county 20 bushels per acre. Coffey 3,600 acres at 18 bushels per acre. Cloud 10,000 acres at 15 bushels per acre. Ottawa 20 to 25 bushels per acre. Marshall 15 to 25 bushels per acre on the upland and 20 to 25 bushels per acre on the lowland. Harvey 11,000 acres at 25 bushels per acre. Need 11,354 acres of wheat, 33,816 of corn, 12,516 of oats, 3,648 of rye; average yield not given. The counties that report under 18 bushels per acre or less, than a full acre, were grasshoppered.

Altogether crops promise splendidly, and the country, so covered with wheat or nearly so covered with corn, cannot be less than eleven cents per bushel on wheat, and five cents on oats. This leaves only 23 cents and it makes 34 cents less for wheat in Emporia than in St. Louis. Averaging the price in St. Louis at \$1.05, the Kansas farmer can get only 71 cents per bushel for his wheat crop. For his oats he can get only 24 cents per bushel. No farmer can afford to raise at these prices, but many, too many, are in such financial need that they must sell no matter how low a price they get, and upon these a railroad tariff of 70 and 80 cents per car presses with crushing exorbitancy. It ought to be reduced at once. Half these rates, and the railroads would charge quite enough.

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whole, we advise people to hold on to their money and let somebody else speculate in the Keeler motor power company shares. Steam power locomotives and engines will have to be used until further notice.

TELEGRAMS.

Tweed says he has paid over \$500,000 to lawyers, and is still in jail, having failed to get the \$3,000,000 bail required.

McClellan has completed his European tour, and is enroute for home.

Miners are now busy in the Black Hills, and report rich gold discoveries.

Quincy, Illinois, reports a 25,000 fire on the 30th.

The king of Burma, anxious to be swallowed by the British lion, persists in refusing the British troops free passage through his kingdom.

The recent flood in the river Garonne, France, was caused by heavy rains. Toulouse, a city of 111,000 people, 200 miles northwest of Marseille, was inundated and greatly damaged. Eight hundred houses were destroyed, 200 people drowned, and 20,000 people made homeless. Smaller towns were swept away, and the valley 2,000 people were lost.

Washington, July 6.—Secretary Delano telegraphs Secretary of War, June 28, from Mount Vernon, Ohio, and will probably not return to resume the duties of Secretary of the Interior. It is believed that Assistant Secretary Cowen will be appointed to succeed him.

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A railroad war is going on between the roads of St. Louis and Louisville, and far from that city to Nashville is only \$2.

Thursday of last week, Gen. Spenser finally retired from the U. S. treasury, and the new treasurer took charge of it.

The St. Louis Daily Times, democratic, was sold at auction last night for \$131,000 cash, to Col. John M. Crisp, of Independence, Mo. Mr. Stilson, the buyer, will edit it.

The American riflemen have beaten the Irish in every trial at Dublin. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, foots up 101,049 population.

Chicago, July 3.—The New York Eastern Editorial-Excursion to California and the West, arrived here last night, and will leave for Elgin, Monday morning. The party will start for Omaha, Nebraska, and thence to Chicago and Quincy railway. They expect to arrive at Sacramento on the 15th, and at San Francisco on the 16th, starting home on the 17th.

A minute insect is destroying the grape vines in France, by eating their roots.

The New Jersey and Delaware peach crop will be 8,000,000 bushels.

It is now proposed to stamp each separate cigar as it is manufactured, the mere stamping of the boxes which hold them not having been found entirely effective in preventing frauds on the revenue.

Washington, July 5.—Another dispatch was received at the Indian Bureau to-day from Prof. Jamney, in which he reiterates his former statement that he has found gold enough in the Black Hills to warrant any extended mining operations. There are fifteen miles near where he is camped who claim that they obtain from five to fifteen cents of gold dust a pan full of water, and that he has tested it several times and cannot make an average of over one-half a ounce of gold per pan. He describes the character of the former and says it does not indicate gold.

San Francisco, St. Louis, Memphis, Chicago, and Cincinnati, New York, Kansas City, Cincinnati, Nashville, Richmond, and other big cities, celebrated July 5th with unprecedented enthusiasm. The country is united north, south, east, and west.

Eleven inches of rain in Nebraska during June.

In Kansas City, on the 5th, Isaac Whitaker's building, full of iron works, caught fire, and was consumed. Loss \$30,000. The Holly water works could have put out the fire, but refused to operate because the city had not fulfilled its contract with Mr. Holly.

Texas reports a very full wheat crop, and expects a big corn crop.

The Wilson bridge works at Anderson, N. J., were completed on Saturday. The works were running night and day on the Erie Railroad, and between 400 and 500 men were employed.

Washington, June 24.—The President at the request of many politicians, has asked the Interior Secretary, Anthony of Kansas, for his resignation. Mr. Anthony is expected to resign.

New York, July 6.—Early this a. m. the jury sent a note to Nelson, stating that it was impossible for them to agree. The judge returned answer that he would send for counsel and communicate with the jury. At that hour his honor took his seat and was followed by lawyers Porter, Sherman, Abbott, Hill and Tracy for defendant, and Morris and Pearson for the plaintiff. The jury fled into the Court looking as if they had passed a sleepless night. In reply to the judge, Foreman Carpenter said "we have not agreed, your Honor. We regret it very much, but find it impossible to agree."

The judge said since they had told him that they could not agree, he would discharge them. The clerk then stated that the jury had been sworn in to regular order by sections, townships and ranges, without reference to owners.

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Secretary Bristol decides to stop work on the Chicago post office, and let it stand until the next meeting of Congress.

Becher says he is good for twenty years' work yet, and trusts to time to vindicate his reputation.

O'Leary, of Chicago, walked 100 miles last week in 19 hours and 43 minutes.

Lawrence, June 29.—McDaniel, the Irish tramp, surrendered for himself this morning to the sheriff's posse, about a mile from this city, and has just been brought in. He was wounded yesterday by a shot fired by a citizen, when he was discovered in the brush, the shot passing through his bowels.

He concealed himself all day and night in the brush, but this morning he came and gave himself up, and died at 9 P. M.

The National Grange will remove its headquarters from Washington, D. C., to Louisville, Ky.

California has an independent reform and temperance state ticket.

The Mexican troops at Matamorras, on the 1st, arrested the marauder Cortinas, by order of their government. The residents gathered to rescue him, but the troops held him so far.

Prohibition, Mass., has abandoned prohibition and returned to the license system. \$88,000 were paid for saloon licenses July 1st. A special effort is to be made to seize adulterated liquors.

July 1st the New York Evening Post moved to its new building. It was just fifty years since Wm. Cullen Bryant began to write for it.

Wagner and Gordon, convicted of murder, were hung at Womansett, Mass., on the 25th, and Henry Gordon, convicted of murder, was hung at Boston, on the same day. Gordon attempted suicide just before the hour of execution, and was taken to the gallows in an insensible state.

Ottumwa, Iowa, Monday, June 28.—A desperado named Smith, while being taken to jail, shot and killed marshal W. Logan. He boasted of killing Logan, and said that night 500 men took him out and hung him.

The American riflemen have won the great shooting match at Dublin, Ireland. Score 857 to 929.

From the Real Estate Register.

NON-RESIDENT LAND OWNERS.
We wish to call the attention of all non-resident land owners to following considerations in reference to the tax law now in force in this State, and which we republish in this issue. It will be seen, by careful examination of section 79, although phraseology is rather obscure, that if the first half of the tax is not paid by Dec. 20th, that the whole tax becomes due at once, and a penalty of five per cent is at once added to the whole, an additional penalty of five per cent on the 21st of March, and another of same amount on the 21st of June.

In order to make this perfectly plain, and to save writing a great many letters to explain it, take this illustration:

Suppose your tax is \$20, and none of it is paid on or before Dec. 20th of the year for which it is levied, five per cent is added at once, making it \$21. If the whole tax and penalty are not paid on or before March 21st, another five per cent is added, making it \$22, and so again the 20th of June following, making it \$23; after that comes the expense of advertising and sale, as provided in section 81, the fees being the same as in the old law.

Now, we propose to show that it is best and cheapest for the non-resident, unless the amount he has to pay is very large, to pay the whole on or before December 20th.

Suppose again your tax is \$20. If the whole is paid on or before Dec. 20th, you are entitled to a rebate of five per cent, on one half, saving your total tax \$19.50. Against this you are entitled to a 10 per cent order, draft, or registered letter 15 cents, one letter and postage .05, total, \$20.70.

Suppose your tax is \$20, and you pay half in Dec. and half in June, your account will stand about like this: Tax \$20, agent's fees \$1.50, exchange .30, two letters and postage .10, total \$22.90. The tax you will have paid \$12.50 for the use of 10 dollars for six months.

Our charges for paying taxes are based on the number of descriptions, or tracts of land, and not on the amount of the tax. It is no more work to pay one hundred dollars than it is one dollar, and the same rule applies to the same. In the above supposed cases the agent's fees may be more or less than stated. We ask our correspondents, for their own sakes, as well as ours, to be very careful in writing the descriptions of the property they desire us to attend to. Much delay, and sometimes loss, is occasioned by inaccurate or illegible descriptions. After we once get the correct description of your property in this county, you need have no further trouble about it, unless the ownership should be exchanged. In that case, please notify us of it. It does no good to ask us how much your taxes are, unless we know exactly what land you own.

The clerk then stated that the jury had been sworn in to regular order by sections, townships and ranges, without reference to owners.

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STATE.

The Paola cheese factory is making nine cheese per day.

The Manhattan Nationalist, Marysville News, Kiroin Chief, Wathena Reporter and Paola Spirit, are in favor of James G. Blaine for president in '76.

Ex-Lieut. Gov. Stover has gone to Las Animas, Colorado, to conduct a branch of a Gove mercantile house.

Wm. Dunn, alias Montgomery, one of the escaped prisoners from the Lawrence jail, was captured last week, in the woods south of that city.

The state treasurer's case, weighing ten tons, has been safely lowered to its new vault in the capital building.